104-10125-10135

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional) Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.
Department of Justice Request

FROM: Sidney D. Stembridge
Acting Director of Security

EXTENSION: 6777

NO.

DATE: 21 OCT 1976

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE RECEIVED	DATE FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
1. General Counsel Att: Mr. Lansdale 7 D 07	10-22-76			
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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL
1999

JFK ACT
05-10-99
RELEASE

20880

FORM 3-62 610 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS ☐ SECRET ☐ CONFIDENTIAL ☐ INTERNAL USE ONLY ☐ UNCLASSIFIED

OGC 76-5851
10-22-76

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CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
RELEASE IN FULL
1999

21 OCT 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

ATTENTION : Mr. Richard H. Lansdale

FROM : Sidney D. Stembridge
Acting Director of Security

SUBJECT : Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr.
Department of Justice Request

1. Reference is made to your request of 4 October 1976 (OGC 76-5403) in relation to a Department of Justice investigation concerning the past activities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) which were directed at the late Reverend Martin Luther King. Reference asked that the Office of Security determine through its files the nature and extent of any contact between the Agency and the FBI concerning Reverend King.

2. A search of our files has disclosed numerous FBI documents which either mention or concern Reverend King as well as a limited number of internal Office of Security documents which relate to FBI/CIA interest in Reverend King. Forwarded herewith as Tabs A through J are copies of each of these documents. A brief description of these documents together with an explanation of the Office of Security files from which these documents were obtained appears below:

a. Tab A consists of both Office of Security and FBI originated documents from our file on Reverend Martin Luther King (OS#353 062) and which appear to relate to referenced request. No sanitization has been effected on these documents.

b. Tab B consists of documents taken from the Office of Security file on Mr. Jay Richard Kennedy (OS#172 527) and which appear to relate to referenced request. It should be noted that Mr. Kennedy was a confidential informant of the Office of

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Security circa 1958 through 1969 and reported to this Office primarily on matters pertaining to the activities of various civil rights leaders. The documents within Tab B refer to The Reverend Martin Luther King, together with other civil rights leaders, and it is presumed that the substance of the information contained within these documents was passed to the FBI through our routine liaison channels. Limited sanitization has been effected on two of these documents to delete certain information which is completely unrelated to civil rights and/or the Reverend King.

c. Tab C consists of a 23 May 1967 FBI study entitled "Racial Violence Potential in the United States This Summer," which refers in part to Reverend King. This document was obtained from the Office of Security file on Stokely Carmichael (OS#493 507). No sanitization has been effected on this FBI document.

d. Tab D consists of several FBI documents which refer to either Reverend King and/or Mrs. Coretta (nee: Scott) King obtained from Volumes IV, VII, XIV, XIX of the Office of Security file entitled "Vietnam Peace Drives" (OS#467 849). No sanitization has been effected on these documents.

e. Tab E consists of a 23 August 1961 FBI document entitled "Southern Conference Educational Fund" which mentions Reverend King and was obtained from the Office of Security file concerning the Southern Conference Educational Fund, Incorporated (OS#358 151). No sanitization has been effected on this document.

f. Tab F consists of two FBI documents from the Office of Security file on Mrs. King (OS#541 487). Both of these documents appear to be portions of two separate FBI documents--the first being an excerpt from a 2 July 1968 electronic message and the second being page five of an FBI memorandum identified only by

the number "NY 100-95954." Mrs. King's file does not contain either of these documents in their entirety. No sanitization has been effected on these documents.

g. Tab G consists of a 15 June 1965 FBI memorandum entitled "Demonstrations Protesting United States Intervention in Vietnam and the Dominican Republic" which mentions Mrs. King. Cited document was obtained from the Office of Security file on the Congress of Unrepresented People (OS#466 698). No sanitization has been effected on this document.

h. Tab H consists of a 5 January 1968 FBI memorandum entitled "Demonstrations Protesting United States Intervention in Vietnam" which mentions Mrs. Coretta (nee: Scott) King. This document was obtained from the Office of Security file pertaining to the Women's Strike for Peace (OS#356 394) and has not been sanitized.

i. Tab I consists of two internal Agency documents and selected pages from an FBI document, all of which concern and/or refer to Reverend King and the FBI's interest in that regard. These documents were obtained from the Office of Security file pertaining to the Black Power Threat (OS#534 051). The selected pages from the FBI document appear to have been extracted from a December 1967 FBI memorandum entitled "The New Left: Road to Anarchy," and the entire document could not be located. No sanitization has been effected on these documents.

3. Also attached hereto as Tab J is a copy of an Agency dispatch from the JMWAVE Project in Miami, Florida, to Headquarters, dated 15 July 1966. This dispatch relates to a joint Dade County Police Department/FBI surveillance of Reverend Martin Luther King which occurred on 19-20 May 1966 and was obtained from the Office of Security file relating to the Peace Center of Miami (OS#333 467). The information within the dispatch concerning the surveillance had been provided to JMWAVE officials in confidence by a representative of the Dade County Police

Department, without the knowledge of the FBI. This dispatch should be coordinated with the Latin America Division/Directorate of Operations prior to our showing the dispatch to the Department of Justice.

4. Please note that all of these documents are forwarded to you on an "on loan" basis and retain their present classification. It is our recommendation that the Department of Justice be allowed to review the attached documents here in Headquarters in the presence of representatives from both the Office of Security and your Office. Should the Department of Justice determine through this review that they require copies of any of the attached material, additional coordination and/or sanitization could then be accomplished prior to transmitting any of these documents to the Department of Justice.

5. We defer to you as to whether any coordination with the FBI is necessary prior to showing the attached FBI memoranda to the Department of Justice. Please contact Mr. Bruce L. Solie, Chief, Security Analysis Group, extension 7682, when arrangements for the Department of Justice review of this material have been established. Mr. Solie will insure that an Office of Security representative is present during the review.

Sidney J. Stembridge

Atts

Distribution:
Orig & 1 - Addressee
1 - DDA